

News Release

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Look to the U.S. Geological Survey for Valentine Place Names

Looking for the special place to “pop the question” this Valentine’s Day? Do you want the perfect location that will make Valentine’s Day 2000 one to remember? Let the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) help you find that romantically named place through our Geographic Names Information System (GNIS). Users can search this national database of geographic names on CD-ROM or the Internet to locate that special somewhere.

Share Valentine’s Day with your sweetheart in Valentine, Ariz., Valentine, Texas, or even Valentine, N.J. Who wouldn’t say “yes” on Proposal Rock, an island in Tillamook County, Ore.? Hershey, Pa., may be considered The Sweetest Place on Earth, but how about Chocolate Drop, Calif., Chocolate Creek, Alaska, or Chocolate Butte, N.D., for those valentine chocoholics? And certainly Sweetheart Lake, Conn., Kissing Couple, Colo., and Cupid Draw, N.M., all share that romantic ambiance passionate lovers long for. And if your Valentine’s Day takes a turn for the worse, the database lists 48 Lovers Leaps located in 19 different states.

The GNIS is a research tool developed in cooperation with the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. It contains the names of almost 2 million physical and cultural features in the United States. The federally recognized name is given, as well as its location by state, county, and geographic coordinates. The GNIS also designates which USGS topographic maps contain the selected feature. The GNIS has many other uses, including regional planning, genealogical research, and emergency preparedness. Check out the Web site for your Valentine’s Day planning at: <http://mapping.usgs.gov/www/gnis/>. For more information on purchasing the GNIS CD-ROM, please call 1-888-ASK-USGS.

As the nation's largest water, earth and biological science and civilian mapping agency, the USGS works in cooperation with more than 2,000 organizations across the country to provide reliable, impartial scientific information to resource managers, planners, and other customers. This information is gathered in every state by USGS scientists to minimize the loss of life and property from natural disasters, to contribute to the conservation and the sound economic and physical development of the nation's natural resources, and to enhance the quality of life by monitoring water, biological, energy, and mineral resources.

-2-

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